

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A valve for a ventilation system of a motor vehicle comprising:
a frame including an interior surface and a first aperture;
a fabric member suspended across said first aperture; and
a rib projecting from said interior surface and surrounding said first aperture
for sealing engagement with said fabric member.
2. The valve according to claim 1 wherein the cross-section of said rib
includes a pair of arcuate sides extending outwardly from said interior surface.
3. The valve according to claim 2 wherein said cross-section of said rib
includes a planar side between said arcuate sides.
4. The valve according to claim 3 wherein said planar side extends parallel to
said interior surface.
5. The valve according to claim 2 wherein said cross-section of said rib is
symmetrical about a vertical axis of said rib.
6. The valve according to claim 1 wherein the cross-section of said rib
includes a first arcuate side extending outwardly from said interior surface and a
planar side extending outwardly from said interior surface and a second arcuate side
extending between said first arcuate side and said planar side.
7. The valve according to claim 6 wherein said first and second arcuate sides
define different radii.
8. The valve according to claim 6 wherein said planar surface extends
substantially perpendicular from said interior surface.
9. The valve according to claim 1 wherein the cross-section of said rib

includes a first convex side extending outwardly from said interior surface and a concave side extending outwardly from said interior surface and a second convex side extending between said first convex side and said first concave side.

10. The valve according to claim 1 wherein said first convex side and said concave side and second convex side define different radii.

11. The valve according to claim 1 wherein said rib has a variable cross-section.

12. The valve according to claim 1 wherein said rib has a constant cross-section.

13. A valve for a ventilation system for a motor vehicle comprising:
a frame including an interior surface and a first aperture communicating with said outlet of said housing;
an idle roller supported for rotation by said frame;
a fabric member suspended across said first aperture and extending between said idler roller and said interior surface of said frame; and
a rib projecting from said interior surface and surrounding said first aperture for sealing engagement with said fabric member.

14. The valve according to claim 14 wherein said idle roller is offset from the top of said rib.

15. The valve according to claim 15 wherein said idle roller is offset from the top of said rib a distance between 0.5 millimeter and 1 millimeter.

16. A valve for a ventilation system for a motor vehicle comprising:
a housing including an inlet and an outlet and a mixing chamber adjacent said outlet;
a frame connected to said housing at said outlet and including an interior

surface and a first aperture communicating with said outlet of said housing;
first and second drive rollers supported for rotation by said frame and disposed at opposite ends of said frame ;
an idle roller supported for rotation by said frame and disposed between said first and second drive rollers;
a fabric member wound and unwound relative to said first and second rollers and suspended across said first aperture and extending between said idler roller and said interior surface of said frame; and
a rib projecting from said interior surface and surrounding said first aperture for sealing engagement with said fabric member.

17. The valve according to claim 16 wherein said idle roller is offset from the top of said rib a distance between 0.5 millimeter and 1 millimeter.

18. The valve according to claim 17 wherein the cross-section of said rib includes first and second arcuate sides extending outwardly from said interior surface.

19. The valve according to claim 18 wherein said first arcuate side is a convex side and the second arcuate side is a concave side.

20. The valve according to claim 18 wherein said cross section of said rib includes a first a planar side extending between said first arcuate side and said second arcuate side.